

Utah Falconry Rule and Proclamation (R657-20)

UDWR was notified in 2006 by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) of their intent to revise their Falconry rule that would be in effect in early 2008. At that time, the Utah Falconry Rule was scheduled for renewal in March of 2007. The Utah Falconry Rule must be in compliance with the FWS Rule to be valid, and that compliance necessitates a major revision to the current Utah Rule. Accordingly, UDWR requested and received from the RACs and the Wildlife Board a 2 year extension of our current rule to run through March 2009.

The new FWS Falconry Rule in fact did not become effective until November 7, 2008. In addition, FWS will review revised State rules for compliance only on an annual basis in January of each year. Consequently, there is insufficient time to revise and submit the Utah Rule to the RACs and Board and then on to FWS for their approval by January 2009.

Therefore, the following schedule is being presented to the RACs and Board with a request for an additional extension of the current rule to run through March 2011. The decision to request a longer extension than one-year is to allow for unforeseen changes or other circumstances that could arise as they have in the past and force another short-term extension request to the RAC and Board. As soon as we have RAC, Board, and FWS approval, our new rule will be in effect. Until that time, both the existing Utah rule and the existing FWS rule will remain in effect.

Present – Mar 31, 2009 – Continue with revision of the Utah rule

April 16, 2009 – New rule to Director's Office for review

May 12 – 20, 2009 – Revised Utah Rule presented to the RACs

June 4, 2009 – Revised Utah Rule presented to the Utah Wildlife Board for approval

Week of June 8 – 12, 2009 – New Utah Rule submitted to FWS for approval

Early January 2010 – Anticipated approval of Utah Rule by FWS